

PATENT APPLICATION  
CH-7779  
STA-196

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION OF )  
LOTHAR PUPPE ET AL ) PCT/EP2003/007235  
SERIAL NUMBER: TO BE ASSIGNED )  
FILED: HEREWITH )  
TITLE: SILICA GEL COMPRISING )  
GUANIDINE CARBONATE )

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
Sir:

This preliminary amendment is being filed concurrently with the subject patent application. Upon granting a Serial Number and filing date, please amend the subject patent application as follows.

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.

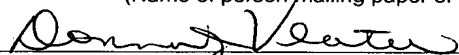
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